

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) A rotary degasser including:

(a) a motor;

(b) a motor shaft having a first end and a second end, the first end connected to the motor;

(c) a coupling having a first coupling member and a second coupling member, the first coupling member connected to the second end of the motor shaft, the second coupling member comprising a bore having an opening, the bore for receiving an end of a rotor shaft through the opening, the bore having an end distal the opening and an end proximal the opening, the distal end being tapered and not threaded, the proximal end being threaded, the distal end comprising a passage for transferring gas, the first coupling member in communication with the passage;

(d) a rotor shaft having:

(i) a first end and a second end, the first end being received in and connected to the second coupling member; and

(ii) a passage through the rotor shaft, the passage including an opening in the first end of the rotor shaft and an opening in the second end of the rotor shaft; and

(e) a rotor connected to the second end of the rotor shaft.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Original) The rotary degasser of claim 21 wherein the proximal end of the second coupling member is threaded.

24. (Previously Presented) The rotary degasser of claim 23 wherein the threads are coarse threads.

25. (Original) The rotary degasser of claim 21 wherein the coupling is comprised of stainless steel.

26. (Original) The rotary degasser of claim 21 wherein the distal end of the bore has a smooth surface.

27-38. (Cancelled).

39. (Previously Presented) The rotary degasser of claim 21 wherein the coupling further comprises one or more apertures configured to receive a tool for disconnecting the shaft from the coupling.

40. (New) The rotary degasser of claim 39 wherein each of the one or more apertures is configured to receive a bolt to connect the shaft and the coupling.

41. (New) The rotary degasser of claim 24 wherein the threads are coarse ACME threads.

42. (New) The rotary degasser of claim 41 wherein the threads are coarse 3/8" ACME threads.

43. (New) The rotary degasser of claim 21 wherein the coupling further includes a counterweight.

44. (New) The rotary degasser of claim 43 wherein the counterweight is on an exterior surface of the second coupling member.

45. (New) The rotary degasser of claim 21 wherein the first coupling member has a cylindrical opening that receives the second end of the motor shaft..